

Theater

Legion Minstrel Show Big Hit--Paul Swanson Stars

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An appreciative audience enjoyed the jokes, singing, dancing and comedy routines of the second annual American Legion Minstrel Show staged in the High School auditorium last Friday and Saturday evenings. Harriet Crocker did a magnificent job of casting and directing the cast of 30, which included seven married couples.

Paul Swanson's rendition of "Mammy" was so hot the audience insisted on an encore. Loren Nass, William White and Richard Putnam brought the house down as they "Rattled Dem Bones" to Harriet Crocker's piano accompaniment. They received several encores.

Some of the Hot Numbers

Robert White as "Mr. Cueball" squeezed everything out of "Chattanooga Shoe Shine Boy" as he went through the routine of shining shoes while dancing. Another popular act found David Marshall teaming with Edmund King as "Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Shean." The crowd wanted more of this one, too. Another act that wowed the audience was the song and dance "Let's Do It Again," featuring Marion Chandler, Virginia Putnam, Daria Gallerani and Mary Blanchard. Also terrific was the song "Send Ten Pretty Flowers to My Girl in Tennessee," sung by Paul Swanson and Willard Mills, and the "Tambourine Overture" sung by the end men got a big hand. The end men were Richard Putnam as Mr. Rattlebones; Fred Wadsworth as Mr. Possum; William White as Mr. Bones; Paul Swanson as Mr. Tambo; Robert Byrne as Mr. Molasses and Robert White as Mr. Cueball.

The show opened with a chorus by the entire company singing "I Don't Care If the Sun Don't Shine." After Mr. Molasses crooned an end song, David and Helen Marshall sang "A Fella With An Umbrella," and Willard Mills, rendered "Gone Fishin'."

Mr. Bones sang "If You Knew Susie" and Paul Sencabaugh put zip into three Al Jolson's favorite numbers, "Swanee," "Mammy," and "April Showers," as the chorus led by Harriet Crocker joined in.

The first half of the show ended with a chorus by the company. During intermission members of the Legion Auxiliary sold candy and cider.

The chorus opened the second part of the show with "Stars Are the Windows of Heaven," by Clarence Walker. Raymond and Blanche Chandler put plenty of oomph into "Would You Like to Take A Walk." Mr. Possum sang "Lora-Belle Lee" and Mr. Rattle, "I Love the Ladies."

The final number found the whole company singing "Bye Bye Blackbird" as they broke the balloons suspended overhead. In behalf of the cast, interlocutor Paul Sencabaugh, presented gifts to Harriet Crocker and to piano accompanist, Baxter Moore.

The make-up was by George Candini and Joseph Glass of Kingston and Victor Shiff of Plymouth. In the chorus were Dorothy Blanchard, Marie Arnold, Blanche Chandler, Helen Marshall, Ann Reid, Virginia Putnam, Daria Gallerani, Marion Chandler, Priscilla Morton, Ruby Tuttle and Mary Blanchard. Also, Howard Blanchard, David Marshall, John Reid, Raymond Chandler, Clarence Walker, Edmund King, Willard Mills, Paul Morrison, Roy Tuttle and Lloyd Chandler.

It was tops in entertainment.